

Message Text

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46

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 /011 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 259352

TOSEC 397 WHITE HOUSE PASS SAM 26000

FOLLOWING REPEAT TUNIS 7233 SENT ACTION SECSTATE

INFO THE HAGUE BAGHDAD LONDON ALGIERS BEIRUT

RABAT TRIPOLI CAIRO, NOVEMBER 24TH:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 7233

DEPT. PLS PASS AS DESIRED

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, EG, SF, OGEN

SUBJECT: HIJACKED VC-10

1. INTERIOR MINISTRY CONTACTS WERE HIGHLY OPTIMISTIC, AS OF 0900 LOCAL, THAT SITUATION WOULD BE RESOLVED SOON AFTER NOON. THEY EXPECT ARRIVAL TWO PALESTINIANS FROM HOLLAND ABOUT THEN, AND HOPE BE ABLE PROMPTLY EXCHANGE FEDAYEEN FOR PASSENGERS AND HAVE AIRCRAFT DEPART. EMBASSY HAS NO NEW INFORMATION RE PLANNED DESTINATION.

2. MINISTER HAS TOLD HIJACKERS NOT TO EXPECT ARRIVAL OF TWO FROM HOLLAND MUCH BEFORE 1300 LOCAL, AND HIJACKERS ARE, SO FAR AS WE CAN TELL, RELATIVELY RELAXED. IN-
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DICATION OF THIS IS FACT THAT HIJACKERS PROPOSED TO

DISEMBARK ONE STEWARDESS WHO HAS BECOME ILL, IN
EXCHANGE FOR FRESH STEWARDESS. BELKHODJA SEEMS TO HAVE
PERSUADED THEM SIMPLY TO LET SICK GIRL OFF.

3. NO FURTHER INFORMATION HERE RE STATUS OF KHARTOUM
EIGHT IN CAIRO. CONSENSUS AMONG DIPLOMATS HERE IS THAT
THEY HAVE BEEN FREED. ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR SAYS
BOUMEDIENNE INTERVENED WITH SADAT TO ACHIEVE THIS RESULT.

4. IF ETA TUNIS OF FLIGHT FROM HOLLAND KNOWN, PLEASE
INFORM TUNIS.
SEELYE

UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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NNN

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